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## **Pause to remember our heroes**

*American Heroes Week in Michigan begins Sunday, September 10  
Woodhaven and Brownstown police officers honored*

**LANSING**—As September 11 approaches, we again pause to remember the horrific tragedies of that day five years ago. We remember the ordinary people who became extraordinary human beings on that fateful day. To honor the memory of the 9/11 heroes, Sen. Bruce Patterson authored a 2003 law that designates the week of September 11 as American Heroes Week in the state of Michigan.

Patterson sponsored the measure so Michigan citizens could remember the extraordinary altruism, compassion, courage, integrity, dedication and selflessness displayed during the tragedy of 9/11. Each year during American Heroes Week he wanted to honor citizens who show these characteristics in their daily work, behavior and accomplishments.

Two such heroes are Officer Matthew DeHart of the Brownstown Police Department and Officer Jon Sivi of the Woodhaven Police Department. These officers performed CPR on a two-year-old girl who was found by her mother face down in the family pool and nearly drowned. After the mother found her daughter in the pool, she ran the child next door to her neighbor, Sivi, who was off-duty at the time. Sivi immediately began performing CPR on the girl. DeHart, who was on patrol a short distance away, responded to an emergency call and began assisting Sivi. Due to the officers' prompt attention to the situation, the baby regained consciousness. Sivi and DeHart saved that little girl's life.

"Officer Sivi and Office DeHart exemplify what it means to be a true hero not only in the eyes of the little girl they saved but also in the eyes of the citizens of Michigan," said Patterson, 7<sup>th</sup> District. "These officers deserve to be recognized as American Heroes. Their actions represent true heroism!"

Sivi and DeHart will each receive a proclamation for their heroism from the Michigan Senate.

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